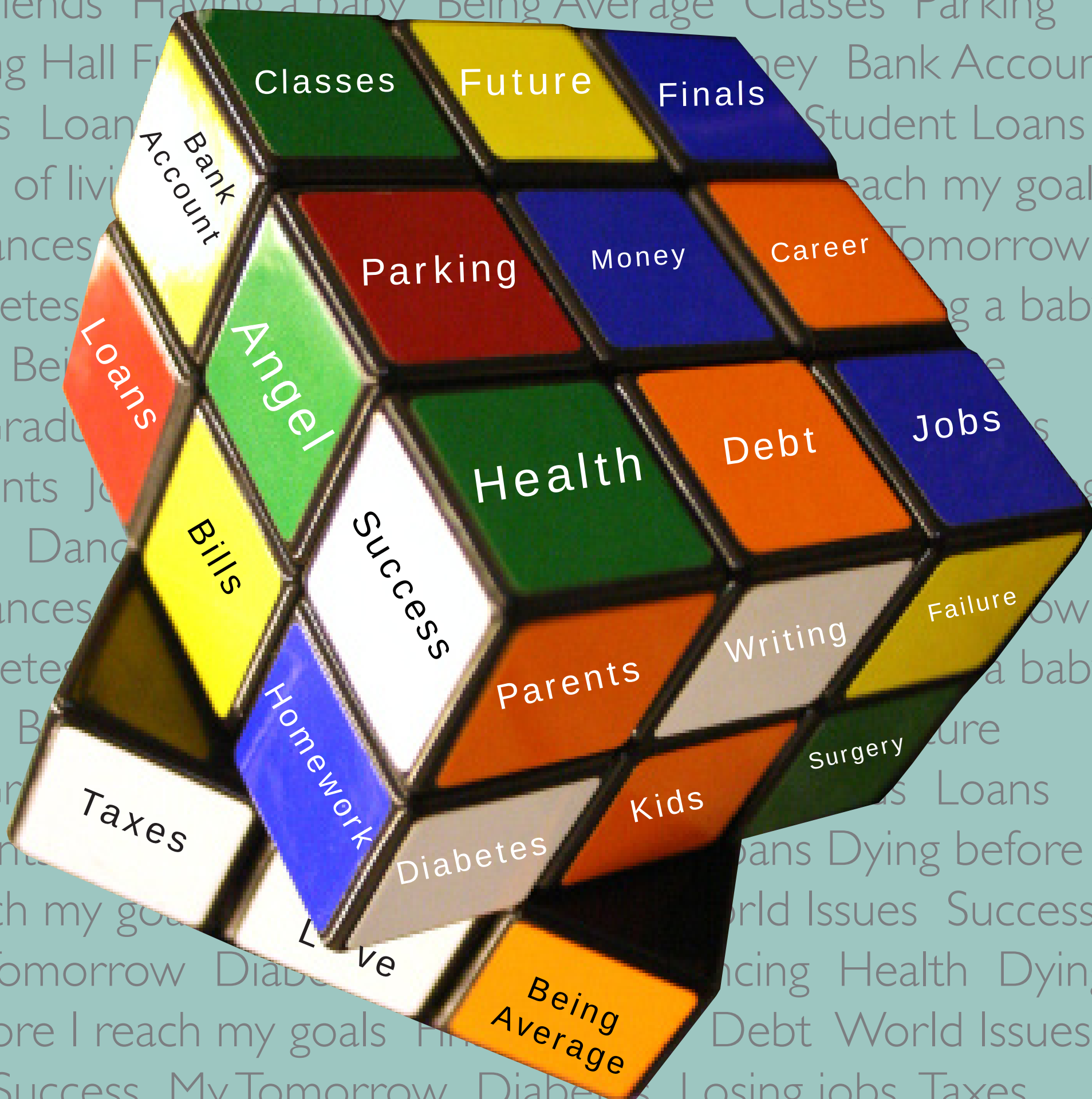
TALON

News Magazine

March/April 2010



Got Stress? Students Do!

Barbie's Birthday Raises Some Concerns

By Emilee Bickleman

March is full of many days to celebrate. There is Dr. Suess's Birthday, St. Patrick's Day, Girl Scout Day, the first day of spring, and many more. But on March, 9th it is Barbie's Birthday and she will be turning 51 years old. In those 51 years there have been many different career types of Barbie dolls and other types of Barbies. Barbie has become a *need* in many families for their young girls. Barbie is not a popular toy for boys, and neither is Ken, Barbie's boyfriend. After interviewing many boys to get their opinion about Barbie they do not really know anything about her. All they know is that she is a doll that there little sister plays with or they have seen them advertise.

Barbie has been a childhood toy for many young girls. Maggie Carthen, a freshman, tells me how she got involved with Barbie dolls, "My parents bought me my Barbie dolls when I was little and my friends all had them, so we would go to each other's houses and play with them." Along with Barbie being a toy, she is also a collector item to some people, like Mamie Calvert, a freshman. When you think of a Barbie doll there are certain things that come to mind. When Mamie hears the word Barbie she thinks "A blonde hair, skinny, good looking girl that girls look up to."

There are many people that oppose how Barbie looks. Nancy Cervetti, a teacher at Avila, found this interesting fact about Barbie: "If scaled into real life proportions, Barbie would be 5'9" measuring 36-18-33. According to research by the University Central Hospital in Helsinki, Finland, she would lack the requisite 17 to 22% of body fat required to menstruate. For her height, Barbie is about 35 pounds underweight." This has become a huge issue on how she looks, since she is such a huge idol to younger girls. "I do not like the body image, it's sexual and an unhealthy body," says Nancy talk about what she thinks about Barbie. This is a common thought.

Throughout the years that Barbie has been here, the controversy has gotten stronger. In other countries, like Iran and Saudi Arabia, they are not allowed to have Barbie dolls on the shelves and are not allowed to sell them. The reasoning behind that would be because of the body image she is giving younger girls to look like when not everyone looks this way.

So next time you look at a Barbie doll, don't just think of a toy, think of what she is making younger girls wanting to become.

Did you know...

- Barbie's real name is Barbie Millicent Roberts.
- Barbie first appeared in the now-famous black-and-white striped swimsuit and signature ponytail.
- The first Barbie doll sold for $3.00 (1959).
- Barbie's first boyfriend, Ken, debuted two years after Barbie in 1961.
- Ken and Barbie broke up on Valentine's Day in 2004 after being together more than 43 years.
- Barbie has been outfitted by more than 70 famous couturiers.

My Stress...

Tim Matson

1. Finances
2. Bills
3. Job Finding
4. Graduating
5. Debt

Shawna Downing

My tomorrow ...
My health ...
My future ...
My finances ...

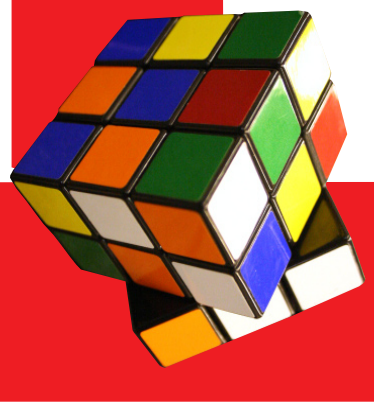
ATTN: Faculty, Staff and Students...
Get Your Art "Out There"!
Donate your works &/or other items for a

Silent Auction

and help SODA support the National "Day Of Silence"—Friday April 16th!
(11:00am—7:00pm, Marian Center Lounge)

Drop-off Art Pieces/works—O'reilly, office E (Social Work Department).
For more information email: soda@avila.edu

Portion of proceeds, from event, will go to the Kansas City Anti-Violence Project to help LGBT victims of violence.



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Speak Out

Health Care Legislation Brings Reaction

"• They had **abortion** funding in the bill
• **Student loans** are in a Healthcare bill!
• This bill was so partisan because no republicans voted for it
• The people didn't want this bill, but the democrats voted for it anyway. They seem to know what is best for us"
- **Tom** Wolf, Senior - Marketing

"I am so busy with school and work I haven't had a chance to follow the debates or news to **form my opinion** towards the bill as of yet."
-**Emily** Buxman, Junior - Nursing

"...The bill is an important step toward providing health care to the American public as a **right and not a privilege**. The role of nurse practitioners as primary care providers will be vital. And, the bill's provisions for primary care should facilitate prevention and early recognition thus decreasing health care costs in the long-run. **Eliminating denial** of insurance for pre-existing conditions should also help manage chronic care instead of driving up costs when the patient becomes critical. This is truly an **example of right relationships** and caring for the dear neighborhood."
-**Susan** Fetsch Dean, School of Nursing

Your opinion is important.
Speak Out on the Talon Online and Talon's Facebook.

My Curse at AT&T

By Trisha Simmons

"Ring, ring, ring…Welcome to AT&T Wireless customer service." I sigh very deeply to myself, count backwards from ten and force my finger to hit the zero on the dial pad. Five zeros later I am finally on hold waiting for a "live" representative to speak with me because no operator can resolve my issue.

As I sit and wait I have to listen to recorded advertisements trying to convince me I need to add the newest features for my phone. I really hate the operator's voice. It is chirpy and smooth. Finally a "live" person picks up, much to my excitement she speaks English and sounds like her name should be Jessica or Ashley. She is friendly and professional; maybe my dread was unnecessary. She asks for the social security number on the account, "for security purposes" of course. We attempt a three-way call to my mom so I can get access to the account and get the show on the road, but she doesn't answer. I hang up and wait for my mom to get home.

I finally call again. This time I am not as apprehensive. The experience a few minutes ago was not so bad. After hitting zeros and tuning out the recording my call is picked up again. I curse mentally. I can't even understand this lady when she pronounces her name. She is definitely reading a script, after every sentence she reads her lines, and her replies have nothing to do with what I just said.

There is no need for me to take out my frustration on this woman. She is just doing her job. I keep asking her to transfer me to someone higher. Finally my patience breaks. Without screaming I make it clear she needs to put a manager on the phone.

The manger picks up after I wait for about ten more minutes. I know from working retail that "the customer is always right." However, this guy is seriously trying to make me look stupid as he avoids solving the problem. Finally he caves, after all the problem is the company's fault in the first place. By the time I end the call, duration 50 minutes, I need a nap. How can talking on the phone physically drain me?

This is my personal opinion; I truly think AT&T makes their customer service so complicated in order to make customers avoid calling. If my over charges had been $30 instead of $400 I would not have bothered with the phone call. Customer service should not be such a pain. Customer service should be the royal treatment. Shouldn't they be kissing my feet for all my years of loyalty and timely payments? I am fed up and ticked off. My contract will be up in about two months and I will be switching companies; I am counting down the days. For the money I pay for AT&T's service they should be able to provide quality customer service. I would rather pay half of what I do now and get equal, if not better, customer service. Curse you AT&T Wireless!

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"This is a Big *#&!ing Deal" - Joe Biden

Congress sacrificed many of health bill's original provisions

Avila speaks out on this *#&!ing deal - page 3

By Jordan Rau
Kaiser Health News

WASHINGTON _ In the year it took Congress to write and pass a health care overhaul, turbulent political shifts _ including the Democrats' loss of the seat long held by the late Sen. Edward Kennedy and the rise of the tea party movement _ forced critical compromises on the scope of legislation.

The downsized ambitions of the final package mean that 32 million more people _ not the 37 million in the original proposals _ will end up insured by 2019. Others will face greater financial strain than lawmakers originally envisioned.

The political developments are well-known: A so-called gang of six Democratic and Republican senators, led by Finance Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., failed to forge a bipartisan agreement. Concerns about the federal deficit swelled. Grass-roots conservatives filled congressional town hall meetings in August and helped to propel Republican Scott Brown to victory in Massachusetts. That deprived Democrats of a filibuster-proof Senate majority and transformed them from confident victors of the 2008 elections to nervous incumbents.

Less widely understood are the adjustments the health care overhaul legislation underwent from July 2009, when Democratic leaders of the House of Representatives first introduced their ambitious proposal, to this week, as the House passed the Senate bill and a related package of changes that requires Senate action. Those modifications will have major effects on Americans in years to come:

-The final package will leave 23 million people without coverage, nearly 6 million more than originally intended.

-Low-income workers receiving subsidies will end up paying more in premiums than they would have under the original House proposal; they also may have to pay more out of pocket on deductibles and co-insurance. (To be sure, the final version offers people significant financial protections that they don't have now.)

-The final package will experiment with dozens of ways to slow the growth of medical costs, but it lacks the most aggressive cost-control measures proposed during a year of negotiations.

"Some of the key changes are in the area of affordability," said Edwin Park, a senior fellow at the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a liberal Washington research organization. The financial assistance for people changed because President Barack Obama and lawmakers, under political pressure, decided that the overall package needed to cost less than $1 trillion over a decade.

Under the final package, people earning twice the poverty level will have to pay 6.3 percent of their income toward premiums _ 1.3 percentage points more than they would have had to pay under the original House bill. That means a family of four earning $44,100 a year will have to pay $2,778 a year in premiums, $573 more than they would have under the initial House bill.

"There was a political calculation that they could raise this much revenue and have it be palatable politically, but that raising more would be too difficult," said Linda Blumberg, a senior fellow at the Urban Institute, a center-left Washington research organization.

While the original House bill limited out-of-pocket costs to $5,000 for individuals and $10,000 for families, the final version uses the Senate thresholds of $5,950 for individuals and $11,900 for most families. Some families receiving subsidies could end up spending as much as 22 percent of their incomes on health care premiums and costs. These financial protections _ as well as the premium subsidies _ will become weaker in future years if medical costs continue to outpace inflation.

Older people who are too young for Medicare _ those in their 50s and early 60s _ will face higher costs than under the House's initial bill, which proposed prohibiting insurers from charging this group more than twice what younger people pay. The final package allows them to charge three times as much. Still, that's much better than the higher premiums some older people face now.

Overall, 23 million people will still lack health coverage in 2019, according to the Congressional Budget Office. Many are illegal immigrants who never would have been covered under any version of the legislation. Others will choose to pay a fine rather than buy insurance. The rest will be excused from the mandate to obtain coverage because it would cost them more than 8 percent of their incomes.

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(Kaiser Health News, an editorially independent news service, is a program of the Kaiser Family Foundation, a nonpartisan health care policy research organization that isn't affiliated with Kaiser Permanente.)

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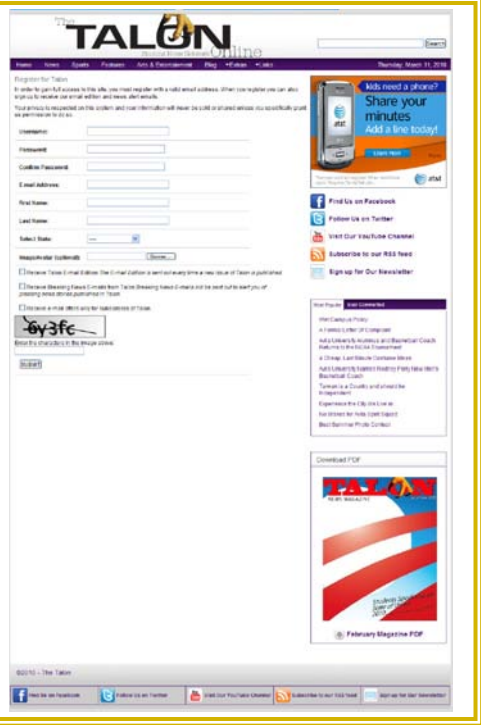


Conor Riley
Shawn Sullivan
Cheng Chung
Tim Matson
Jacqueline Sharp
Trisha Simmons
Austin Stockard
Jason Jacob

Ethnic Food and Culture Celebration 2010 A Success

By: Bransen Ireland

Walking in to the Marian center on the Avila University campus on Thursday March 4, 2010 the first thing you would have noticed was the line of students, university employees and other people not even affiliated with the university standing in a long line. People waiting ten minutes or longer just to get their first dish of food, a line that at one point wrapped all the way around the corner in the Marian Center toward the stair case by the front entrance. Why were all these people waiting in line you may ask? The answer was Avila's 2010 ethnic food and culture celebration. This has become an annual event at Avila University where they have people support their culture whatever their culture may be by dressing in their traditional attire and bringing in dishes from their ethnic background.

According to associate director of student life Jason Baldwin the ethnic food and culture celebration has been going on at Avila for nine years. The event started out as something very small taking place in the eagles nest a room created by the university to give students a chance to play fun games like pool and ping pong the eagles nest also has computers students can use along with a big screen television. As the event grew it became too large to host in the eagles nest so they decided to host it in the cafeteria and the event has continued its booming growth becoming one of the most talked about events at Avila University. Last spring fox four news had a camera and reporter covering the event giving Avila major exposure on the popularity of the event. One of the centerpieces of the ethnic food and culture celebration is the belly dancer, who dances around the cafeteria during the event and pulls people out of their seats to dance with her.

With all of the positive upside to such a large event it was difficult to find a negative however after speaking with Darby Peoples who is the dean of students at Avila she said, "The biggest issues with the event is the long line and not having enough space. We usually hold the event on a Thursday so students don't get out of class until 12:15pm creating a long line and when people are in a hurry to get in and out before their next class it becomes a major issue." Avila sophomore Marc Benavidez said that he enjoys ethnic food day because, "You can really see how the different cultures have different tastes in spices." Sophomore Adam Mattison said, "Ethnic food day is more about the food than the atmosphere, because the atmosphere is so crowded." When asking junior Austin Stockard what his favorite dish was he said, "I have many a favorite dishes but for my favorite I would have to go with the Philly cheesesteak." With all the build up and large turnout to the ethnic food and culture celebration Darby Peoples said they were in the process of planning another ethnic food day culture celebration for the fall of 2010.

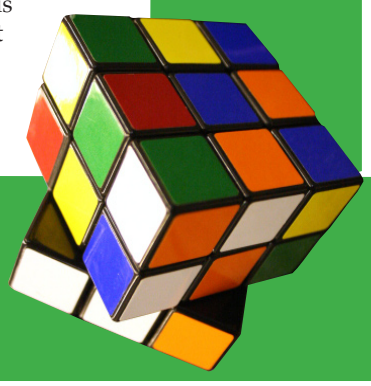
People enjoy the festivities that Ethnic Food and Culture Celebration had to offer.

March Sadness: Player Wishes for More

By: Austin Stockard

It every young basketball players dream to grow up and be a part of March Madness. It is one of the greatest times of the year for basketball fans. The best teams in the country come to play in the greatest tournament around. Even if you are not playing NCAA basketball making the National Tournament is a huge deal. So what happens when March is the reason for your Madness? When all season you work so hard to make the tournament but your efforts come up short of your goals of having a chance to play for the National Championship "It is a horrible feeling man. When I went to the girls game I was thinking man we should be playing right now. We should be late for this game because we should have had practice." Says Lamar Williams who is a junior point guard for Avila. It makes it harder on the basketball team to watch games on ESPN and hear all the announcers talking about the tournament. " I don't want to be watching basketball on TV. I want to be getting ready for the biggest game of the year. I love the feeling of you have to win to keep your hopes alive. Win or go home, unfortunately we didn't win enough to be a part of that" Said Alex Marler a senior who just finished his career at Avila. It's not fun to be cheering for your favorite team instead of your team. This year the Madness of march is not as crazy as it used to be. Instead this year March is a time to reflect on underachievement. The Avila men's team is already getting ready for next year. "We are going to better next year. Believe me, we will be the hardest working and hungriest team in the conference. We will not go through what we went through this year. I hope everyone is ready for a different type of Avila team next year." Says Jason Haase a sophomore post player for the eagles. Hopefully Avila University is feeling the madness next march instead of being mad at March. " This is my favorite time of the year normally. I don't want to be on this outside looking in next year. I was runner up in the national championship at my junior college. I want to be a part of something like that here. Except I want to be on the winning side next time. This not making the tournament won't cut it."

I Journalism: Emilee Bickleman, Brandon Dunlap, Bransen Ireland, Rachel Kloser, Teresa Kuppinger, Elyssa Noordam, Conor Riley, Thomas Swager



Such Madness: It's Difficult to Get Mad When the Sun is Shining

By Conor Riley

Say Good-bye to this freezing cold never ending snowy winter. Having the snow around a couple times a year is a pleasant experience for almost every person. It seems as if the snow brings a beautiful area view that people can experience even in their own backyards. For many people though the freezing weather gets old and the beginning of spring is often talked about. Well that day will be here sooner than everyone will know it. March 20th is marked down as the first day of spring and the constant happy madness begins. You don't have to look far to see signs of spring. From the budding of the trees and the warming of the temperatures to the animals coming out of their winter hideouts, there seems to be a promise of new birth and color in the springtime air. Spring comes as a day when everyone can enjoy themselves in the fresh air again with no shivering or high risk of getting a cold. The sun will begin to stay out later, the temperatures will begin to rise, and individuals can once again enjoy the outdoor activities they've been looking forward to. Spring activities individuals can now enjoy usually are golf, baseball, soccer, and children can look forward to the Easter activity known as the scavenger hunt.

Seems as if March is a fun month of madness where people enjoy the outdoors watching the St. Patrick's Day parade or sit at home watching the NCAA March madness all of the events are signs of spring coming again. It seems strange that not many people connect these days as a new start of a season. People can sit and enjoy grilling out again sipping on beverages while getting a slight tan, but looking forward to the rain that puts a person to sleep at nice is also exciting. These are the days that are known as beautiful days the days where sitting under the trees reading a book seem like the day a men, women, or children having been looking forward too. Even Sarah Boone a Sophomore Elementary Education major from Avila University agrees stating "I love spring it's never too hot and never too cold seems just right". The weather seems to put people in a good or bad mood and how could someone not be happy when the weather is just right. One student Anthony Kinnard a sophomore psychology major at Avila University stated, "Spring is wonderful because of the level of activities that people seem to participate in". It seems as if instead of sitting inside playing video games and trying to keep warm students and adults get to enjoy life with activities that are not only fun, but also healthy.

It's no wonder so many students and families go on Spring break trips life seems so much fun with no more uncomfortable layers of clothing and the unattractive redness of the face from cold winds. It's no wonder that people look forward to this day of March 20th.
Its time to celebrate start the spring of 2010 with the madness of March. And well if people really enjoy celebrating days enjoy the national quilting day which is also on March 20th. Kick off your shoes grab an iced tea or lemonade and get ready for the one day that seems talked about through nearly 9 months out of a year. Enjoy spring and the greatest day to many March 20th.

Don't Hug Too Tightly on this Campus

By Jason Jacob

There is a new policy on campus about Sexual Conduct. A lot of snooping went on for answers to why this policy was put into play, and teachers rescheduled meetings, kids walked away swiftly with their head down, and coaches made stupid jokes not taking the interview seriously. Everyone's attitude and posh towards this article was a little Taboo. A source leaked the scoop, but you all know how the Avila Gossip is around campus. So the story goes that there were a couple of consensual sexual instances in the dorms last semester that raised some eyebrows along with other things. Questions, sicko's. The sounds the couple's made would reverberate off the walls and down the halls to the Squeamish who raised controversy to the RA's and to the head of the school. So you can thank those couples who remain nameless who have ruined it for the rest of us, for the new Sexual Conduct Policy. The policy is stated in the student handbook. For those of you who don't care to check out the policy online on page 48 or are too lazy to look it up on the campus safety page, allow me to regurgitate it to you. The Policy states **SEXUAL MISCONDUCT-**Physical contact of a sexual nature, whether in public or private, is prohibited on campus. Pretty Broad huh? But the School had to add some form of policy to our handbook, after all we are a Catholic University and the Church does not approve of pre-marital Sex. So in turn there will be No sex in the AU Rooms. (Sounds like a Chris Rock Remix) Darby Peoples, Dean of Students who was more than willing to talk about the subject and she added, "We as staff, try and teach students to be responsible and to learn from their mistakes. We want to guide Students in making better choices for their future." Mrs. Peoples, students want to know why the handbook and all of its information isn't reviewed to us.? She Replied, " The handbook is reviewed in the voluntary dorm meeting at the beginning of each semester to the Students living on campus. People really don't care or want to know about something until it applies to them." She makes a valid point there. Take this new policy into consideration, the consequences will be discretionary so remember, keep your hands down, your pants up, and party like a scholar.

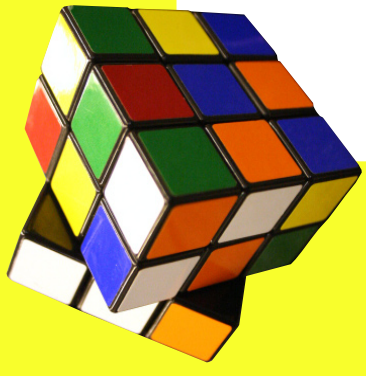
Landon Ellis

Money
Bank account
Kids no kids
Loans
Parents
Jobs
Writing

Samantha Sanoubane

1. Not finding a career after graduation.
2. Not being able to pay for my student loans.
3. Cost of living.
4. Never moving out my parents house.

My Stress...



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Caveat Venditor

By: Valerie Reed

Have you ever been ripped off by selling or buying items using Craig's List?
It is likely that if you post an ad on Craig's List a scammer will try to contact you. Fortunately the Talon is here to help. All Craig's List sellers should be aware of the following information, and consider using the Talon's Classifieds for selling your unwanted items.

There are clues that sellers need to be aware of to avoid scams. Some of these clues include:
1.If the prospective buyer immediately says he or she will be purchase the item(s) at the posted price, without questions
2.The buyer states will have to pay by money order (with a legitimate-sounding reason)
3.The biggest warning sign is if they mention the money order was accidently made for a larger amount and asks you to cash it in and send the "extra" money back. The buyer will request the "extra" money to be sent through a company such as Western Union

Here is a perfect example of a scam, the seller was conscious of the clues the whole time:

"FROM BUYER
Good to hear back from you. I am willing to pay your asking price. I will pay by money order as its the only way I can pay you at the moment. I would have loved to come take a look but I am presently out of town on an assignment. I will not be back in town soon. I dont mind adding an extra fifty dollars so you can keep it in my favor, Please send me some pictures. I hope it is in good condition. Reply with your full name, cell phone number, and address where payment should be sent.I will let you know how I intend to go about the pick-up. Please take the posting off craigslist today and consider it sold to me.
Expecting to hear from you soon.
Thanks.

FROM SELLER
Can you give me a time frame as to when you will send the money order and be able to pick them up?
I can assure you they are in great condition, and have attached some additional photos.
In no offense to you, I will want to assure that the money order will clear before the deal is final, I have worked in a bank and want to take all precautions. I'm not assuming or accusing you of anything, just protecting both of us.
So, the total amount purchased will be $1,250.00

FROM BUYER
Thanks for your quick mail,Your payment has been sent but there is something i think i must bring to your notice immediately. I just discovered there is an error in the payment sent to you. My assistant sent the payment meant for another item thats more expensive than yours. I have called the post office to see if they could retrieve it but nothing positive.
I really dont know what to do now. Please and Please, you can go ahead and cash out the Money Order at your Bank when you receive it, deduct your payment and send the balance via western union to the details i will provide you with. Can i trust you to do that for me?
Thanks

FROM SELLER
I think it is best for you to take your business elsewhere and find a different set of rims which you would like to purchase. Thanks for your interest."

Classifieds

Auto/Motorcycle/Auto Parts

- Ninja zx-6r636 - $6000

2005, runs great, clean title, Yoshimura pipe, added blue frame sliders, flush blue turn signals (back and front), 7,648 miles -Icon helmet (large) to go with it Call 816-500-1685 or email vkreed@gmail.com for further details

- 22" Cabo Rims - $1200

4 cabo 22 inch rims, with tires. Driven for only 6 months, stored in garage, never driven in snow/ice orwith salt on the road, excellent condition
Call 816-500-1685 or email vkreed@gmail.com for further details

Electronics

- 2 TV's - $25/each

both 19 inch, RCA and Curtis Mathes
Call Emilee Bilyeu at 314-406-6060 or email at bilyeu153663@avila.edu

Contact Valerie Reed for details and information of classified postings - reed156919@avila.edu

If you are a Craig's List user and fed up with frequent scams then you'll appreciate the Talon's newest addition; a classifieds section. Avila students, faculty and staff will be able to post their item(s) for sale in the Talon's Classifieds section for local businesses and all of Avila to see!

Avila's Core Management System a Fallen Angel?

Tell us about your Angel Frustration at Talon's Facebook or Twitter.

By Brian Garrison

Is any one else fed up with Avila wonderful Angel system? I transferred here this symester, and it's now midterm time and I've yet to master Angel. I'm not sure whats more confusing, the fact that I have to check my email and Angel on a daily basis, or the fact that I have to click on approximately five different things just to see if I've been assigned home work. I'm willing to go out on a limb here and say the best thing about Angel, is the cool image of the eagles flying on the front page.

"I think the only solution to this problem is make this Angel a fallen angel, or one that has been exiled."

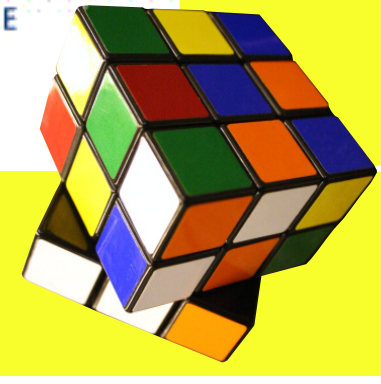
I'd like to start out with the issue of homework. I'm used to getting emails from my teachers letting me know class has been canceled, or for information about an assignment. I've never left class on a Tuesday just to find out over the weekend an assignment was issued and is not due in class next time you meet, but often before your next class. I understand were in a digital era and teachers want to be as up to date as possible, but when I leave school I'm done with school. If homework has been issued I plan out time during the weekend to get it done, but when home work is just thrust at me unexpectedly I find it a bit unfair.

Sticking with the idea of homework, I often get lost on how to even figure out if I have homework. Sometimes it shows up on the home page and lets you know immediately, but I'm figuring out that more often than not you first have to look up, your class. Then you have to click on the lesson title. Next you must find your week of class, and search though three of four folders to see if you have an assignment.

The final issue I'd like to bring up, is the fact that not all teachers use Angel, and the one that do all use it differently. Some teachers expect you turn everything in to Angel and get all your information from it. While others either don't use it, or every now and then will throw up a message or an assignment for you to get. If Avila is going to keep this system in place, they need to have uniform way that their faculty will use it. Either all teachers need to use it, or no teacher should use it. Students shouldn't be expected to have to learn five or six different ways use one system. If teachers are going to use their should be one universal way tought to them all so it's more effective.

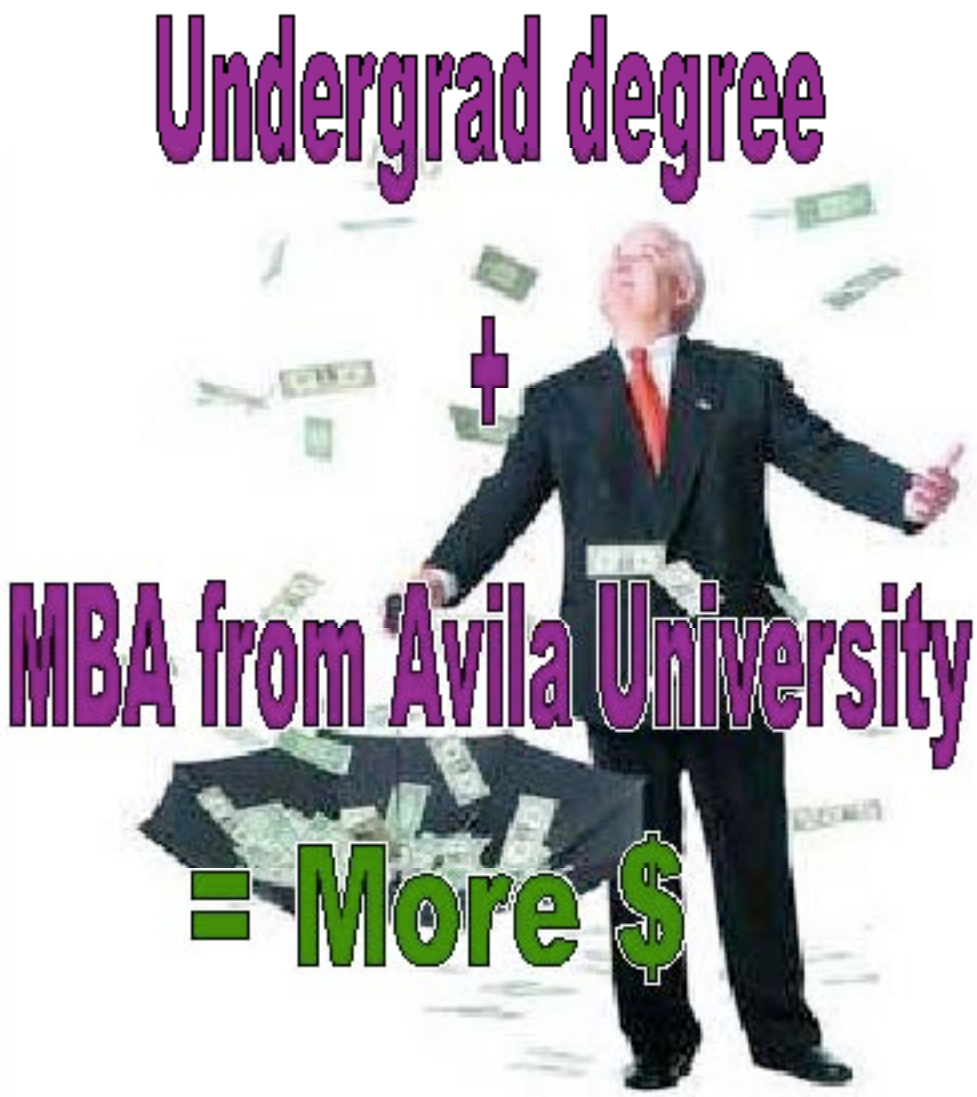
I think the only solution to this problem is make this Angel a fallen angel, or one that has been exiled. It's time to get rid of this method and stick to the orginal practical method of email. Everything you can do through Angel, from relaying messages, gathering assignment, and canceling class can be done from using Email. Avila already has an email system in place that every student and teacher has to use. So why waste this asset, instead we should utilize it as a mean of replacing Angel

ANGEL® | LEARNING MANAGEMENT SUITE



telephone numbers for verification purposes. Letters can be mailed to the Talon News Magazine Editor, Avila University, 11901 Wornall Road, Kansas City, MO. 64145. The Talon reserves the right to edit letters for reasons of space, clarity, or inappropriate language. Copies of the Talon News Network Operational Guidelines may be requested by writing to the above referenced address.

Make it RAIN!



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